

Azithromycin Fact and Instruction Sheet

What is azithromycin?

Azithromycin is an antibiotic. Antibiotics help the body fight off infections.

Before using azithromycin, you should tell your nurse or doctor:

- If you know you are allergic to this medicine, erythromycin, or clarithromycin.
- If you are pregnant.
- If you are breastfeeding – it is not known if this medicine gets into breast milk.
- If you have liver disease.
- If you are taking an antihistamine. Drugs such as seldane and hismanal should not be used when taking azithromycin.
- If you are taking birth control pills.

Special instructions for taking this medicine:

- Mix the contents of the packet with two ounces of water and drink all of it now. Then, add two more ounces of water to the same cup and drink this too.
- This medicine can be taken with or without food.
- Do not have sex for at least seven days after you take this medicine.
- Make sure that your sex partner gets treated before you have sex again.

Possible side effects:

The following side effects may occur after taking this medicine. They should not last long, and you do not need to see a nurse or doctor unless they do not go away.

- Loose bowel movements
- Stomach upset (nausea or vomiting)

You should come back to the clinic if the symptoms do not go away or if you have itching or burning or discharge from the vagina one week or more after taking your medicine.

Remember – use condoms to protect yourself against sexually transmitted infections!